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January 20, 2001

U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5630 Fishers Lane Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

5362 '01 JAN 22 A7:35

Re: Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is to request that the FDA grant petition 98P-0151/CP1 to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals.

The reason for this request is that downed animals endure tremendous suffering which should be unacceptable in a civilized society. Thus, by removing the market for downed animals this will provide an incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

Furthermore, downed animals impose an increased risk of bacterial infection and there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE, a disease which has been linked to a fatal human illness called Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease.

Moreover, industry experts have estimated that 90 percent of downed animals can be prevented with simply better care and handling. And, since downed animals comprise only a very small percentage of animals slaughtered prohibiting their marketing should cause no undue economic hardship.

Therefore, for the sake of the animals and humans both, please stop the slaughter of downed animals.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Lewis E. Neiman

98P-0151

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